

SENATE BILL 1057

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0lr3508

By: **Senator Stone**

Introduced and read first time: March 1, 2010

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Leaving Dogs Outside and Unattended by Use of Restraint –**
3 **Restricted Hours and Conditions**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from leaving a dog outside and unattended by
5 use of a certain restraint during a certain time period or during a snow
6 emergency declared by the Maryland State Police; establishing penalties for a
7 violation of this Act; and generally relating to the unattended restraint of dogs.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Criminal Law
10 Section 10–623
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2002 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Criminal Law**

16 10–623.

17 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

18 (2) “Collar” means a device constructed of nylon, leather, or similar
19 material specifically designed to be used around the neck of a dog.

20 (3) “Restraint” means a chain, rope, tether, leash, cable, or other
21 device that attaches a dog to a stationary object or trolley system.

22 (b) A person may not leave a dog outside and unattended by use of a
23 restraint:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (1) that unreasonably limits the movement of the dog;
- 2 (2) that uses a collar that:
- 3 (i) is made primarily of metal; or
- 4 (ii) is not at least as large as the circumference of the dog's neck
- 5 plus 1 inch;
- 6 (3) that restricts the access of the dog to suitable and sufficient clean
- 7 water or appropriate shelter;
- 8 (4) in unsafe or unsanitary conditions; [or]
- 9 (5) that causes injury to the dog;

10 **(6) DURING A SNOW EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE MARYLAND**

11 **STATE POLICE; OR**

12 **(7) BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 10 P.M. AND 6 A.M., UNLESS THE**

13 **PERSON HAS AN EXPRESS WAIVER FROM THE UNIT OF THE COUNTY OR**

14 **MUNICIPAL CORPORATION THAT LICENSED THE DOG.**

15 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on

16 conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or a fine not exceeding

17 \$1,000 or both.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

19 October 1, 2010.